

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 04747 271700Z

62

ACTION USIE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-11

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3349

INFO USINT ALGIERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 4747

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS PFOR PINT

SUBJ: GOM REQUEST FOR USG ACTION AGAINST UPI STRINGER

REF: RABAT 4655 (USIAC)

1. FON MIN EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION
CHIEF BELKORA CALLED IN DCM SEPTEMBER 27 TO DISCUSS
CASE OF BOUJAMAA BOUTI, ALGERIAN NATIONAL WHO IS UPI
STRINGER HERE. BELKORA OBSERVED THAT BOUTI'S PRESENCE
HERE WAS EMBARRASSING BOTH TO GOM AND US, AND REQUESTED
THAT WE INTERVENE WITH UPI TO HAVE THAT AGENCY END ITS
RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. GOM, BELKORA SAID, WAS RELUC-
TANT TO TARNISH ITS CREDENTIALS AS GOVERNMENT WHICH
RESPECTS PRESS FREEDOM BY ASKING BOUTI TO LEAVE COUNTRY.

2. DCM, WHILE AGREEING TO TRANSMIT BELKORA'S REQUEST
TO WASHINGTON, NOTED THAT INTERVENTION OF THIS KIND NOT
SOMETHING USG COULD UNDERTAKE. LIKE U.S. PRESS, OUR
GOVERNMENT WAS ACUTELY CONSCIOUS OF PRESS FREEDOMS AND
SIMPLY COULD NOT TAKE STEP WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS
COMPROMISING THESE FREEDOMS. AT SAME TIME, DCM SAID,
WE DID NOT QUESTION GOM'S RIGHT TO DEMAND BOUTI'S
DEPARTURE.
NEUMANN

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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